

NOAH'S ARK.

It Was Found Just Where the Patriarch Left It.

It was some five thousand years ago when Noah landed on the top of Mount Ararat in Armenia. Although he was neither a ship-builder by trade, nor did he use steel plates, but built his vessel with wooden planks only, the ark was of such marvellous power for resistance that it has withstood the wear and tear of wind and weather all this time until this day. To this effect is the information conveyed to the world by the right reverend papal delegate to Malabar, archbishop of Bombay, and Doctor of Divinity Joseph Nouri, in his report of his traveling adventure published in the most faithful Roman Catholic paper, *Universo*, at Paris. The report is replete with minute circumstantial evidence of the fact that the learned doctor has discovered the ark of Noah on the top of the Ararat. At a distance of one thousand feet from the top of the mountain, too small a distance to allow of a possibility of mistake, he saw with his naked eye a spot of a peculiar tint which, on closer inspection, was found to look like a large vessel, part of which stood out above the snow and was clearly visible. It was above three hundred feet long and one hundred feet high. In the center was a turret. The sides had openings like windows. The central part of the roof had been broken in by the snow. The doctor was, he says, in a condition of wonder so indescribable as to entirely overlook the fact that it would have been well to go nearer to the vessel and examine it more thoroughly. He says it was on April 35 last at two p. m. that he first saw that stood face to face with the ark of Noah.

WOMEN AS COMPOSERS.

On All the Higher Efforts of Mind They Are Far Superior to Men.

It might have been thought that if practice gives perfection women would have excelled her male counterpart, not only as an executant, but as a composer of music, declares the London *Lancet*. But in instrumental performance she cannot for a moment compare with him, while as a composer she is nowhere. The repertoire of music, from the dawn of the art to the present day, owes simply nothing to her. Considering the time she has spent over it, her failure to evolve new harmonies, or even new melodies, is one of the extraordinary enigmas in the history of the fine arts.

Where, in ancient times or in modern, can woman, with all her practice, be found to have created one chef-d'œuvre in music? The inference implied by the negative answer to such a question seems simply this: That in the higher efforts of mind—even in those where the admixture of an emotional element, as in music, might be supposed to give her the advantage—women are inferior to her male counterpart, and cannot, by any educational forcing system, be made equal to him, deficient as she is in the physiological conditions of ideoplastic power.

HOT BATHING.

A Japanese Custom That Other Peoples Would Do Well to Copy.

In hygienic matters the Japanese have everywhere a habit which may have a lesson for us. In their nightly bath and morning wash the water is never cold, never warm, but always hot as it can be borne. To foreigners this habit seems very surprising, but the most inveterate Englishman, if he stays in the country long enough, abandons his cold tub in its favor. The cold-tubbing, says an English exchange, which it is supposed to follow is not found to occur if the water has been hot enough. This heat is maintained by a little furnace beneath the bath. In the bath the bather or bathers take a prolonged soaking, the washing proper being done on the bath-room floor; then follows a second and final soaking, drying with towel, and a lounge in bathing wrapper. This habit seems to promote softness and suppleness of the skin, and by persons inclined to rheumatism is soon found to be altogether preferable to the cold bath in every particular. The poorest of the Japanese hear of a cold bath with amazement, and would be sure the man who used it must be a barbarian.

DEADLY POISON IN ARROWS.

Recent Investigations Go to Show That It Contains Marshy Earth.

M. Dauter has examined and experimented with the arrow poison used by the natives of the New Hebrides. He finds that it contains neither vegetable poison nor serpent virus, but consists of earth impregnated with vegetable matter taken from marshy places, and containing Pasteur's vibriose septique or bacillus of malignant oedema and also the bacillus of tetanus.

If the arrows have been kept a long time, says London *Lancet*, or have been much exposed to the sun, the vibriose septique may have been destroyed. The danger then is from tetanus. When the arrows have been freshly prepared and the vibriose septique is still active, a wound from them causes death in a guinea pig from septicaemia in from twelve to fifteen hours; tetanus, which takes longer than that period of time to develop, does not under these circumstances show itself. It is interesting to remark that the horse is unknown in these islands, consequently the theory of the equine origin of tetanus would seem to be negated by these researches.

FEELINGS DURING A FALL.

A Scientist in Rotterdam Claims They Are Very Enjoyable.

Prof. Heins, of Zurich, supplies the scientific press with an article upon falls. According to him, the man who falls from a tremendous height has the most enjoyable time imaginable—until he stops. If he could fall forever it would be better than paradise. He suffers no pain, he is not frozen, with terror, as is commonly supposed, yet he is perfectly aware of what is happening.

Those seem to pass very slowly as he goes down, and he thinks of many subjects. There are pleasant sounds in his ears—probably caused by the whizzing of the air as he goes by. He knows perfectly well that there will presently be a tremendous thud and a violent pause, but he regards the prospect with absolute composure, and rather looks at it from an outside standpoint, as if it were some one else who was going to come down with that thud, and that he was going to stand by and see the fun.

When the stoppage does come he knows nothing about it. It is a beautiful death—no pain, no terror, no consciousness, a great hush. The patient seems to be a comatose or a morose, lying

stretched the blue sky, and then he sinks into oblivion, as if he had fallen into a sea of chloroform and never, and if the fall is long enough he never knows anything more, and nothing worries him again to all eternity.

AN IMAGINARY TOWN.

The Vanished City of Is of Ancient Brittany.

The beautiful allegory, of which so pathetic a use was made by M. Renan in his "Recollections of My Youth," is thus translated in the English edition of that work, the translation being revised by Mrs. Renan: "One of the most popular legends in Brittany is that relating to an imaginary town called Is, which is supposed to have been swallowed up by the sea at some unknown time."

"There are several places along the coast which are pointed out as the site of this imaginary city, and the fishermen have many strange tales to tell of it. According to them the tips of the spires of the churches may be seen in the hollow of the waves when the sea is rough, while during a calm the music of their bells ringing out the hymn appropriate to the day rises above the waters."

"I often fancy that I have at the bottom of my heart the city of Is; with its bells calling to prayer a recalcitrant congregation. At times I halt to listen to these gentle vibrations, which seem as if they came from immeasurable depths, like voices from another world. Since old age began to steal over me, I have loved, more especially during the repose which summer brings with it, to gather up those distant echoes of a vanished Atlantis."

THE CANARIES.

An Interesting Group of Islands with a Delightful Climate.

"I think one of the most interesting groups of islands in the world is the Canaries," said a globe trotter recently to a St. Louis Globe-Democrat man. "They are but 50 to 100 miles from the African coast, and possess a delightful climate. They are supposed to be the fortunate islands of the ancients. Tenerife, the largest of the group, is 90 miles long and 50 broad. In the middle of the broadest part rises the well-known peak. The natives call it Pico Teide. It has a double top, the highest being more than 12,000 and the lowest nearly 10,000 feet above the level of the sea. Snow remains on the peaks for about four months in the year. Very near the top of the highest peak is a great cavern where snow is preserved throughout the year. In the summer a very curious spectacle may be witnessed in the Canaries. The northeast wind, which blows from 10 a. m. to 5 p. m. produces a dense stratum of sea cloud, whose lower surface is about 4,000 feet above the sea. Below this is another distinct stratum, perhaps 500 feet thick, the lower surface being from 2,000 to 3,500 feet above the level of the sea. Between these strata is a gap of 1,500 to 2,000 feet through which people are approaching or leaving the islands may obtain a glimpse of the mountains."

MILLIONS OF SQUIRREL TAILS.

Dyed Rabbit Skins Are Still Largely Used in the Fur Trade.

A good deal of uncertainty seems to prevail as to the likely supply of skins, but a recent feature in the fur trade is the liberal resort to the use of tails of animals which at one time were regarded as being of very second-rate importance. The most urgent demand for tails would appear to be in the instance of ermine. But the point only, being jet black, is inserted, after the well-known fact of their introduction, at intervals—in reality, the ermine trimmings of the sovereign and royal family not actually consisting of the tail of the ermine, but of the paws of the black Astrakhan lamb or other suitable black fur.

Squirrel tails are, however, largely used, and one or two millions of these find their way annually into the market, as well as marten's tails, which really make a beautiful fur. The muskrat tail is also a large article of commerce, the muskrat skin itself being, perhaps, the best natural low-priced fur that finds its way into our market, and far superior in point of wear to the dyed rabbit skins that are sold in black and brown lustered goods familiar to the trade.

BEATS THE EIFFEL.

The Devil's Tower, a Strange Wonder-Work of Nature in Wyoming.

One of nature's strangest freaks, one of the greatest wonders of the world, is the Devil's tower, or, as the Sioux Indians call it, the mateo tepee, or the bear's lodge, which stands on the banks of the La Poudre river, in a northeastern corner of Wyoming, says the Portland *Oregonian*. The country for fifty miles around consists of high table lands, deep canyons and narrow fertile valleys—nothing to indicate the possible existence of any such freak of nature.

The tower is a gigantic column, a monster obelisk of lava, which rises to a height of 1,200 feet, almost twice the height of the Eiffel tower. At the base the huge shaft measures 300 feet through in one direction. High crystals of the volcanic rock, measuring from 1 to 3 feet through, start at the base and run unbroken to the top, giving to the column a peculiar fibrous appearance, even when viewed from the tablelands forty miles away.

How did it get there? How was it made? Once in awhile, in the present age, we have heard how portions of the bottom of one of the oceans have been pushed up by volcanic forces, and even a new island added to the charts. Ages ago similar volcanic forces started a jet of lava up from the bottom of the ancient geological ocean that covered all the north-west at that time. The squirt of molten rock evidently did not break through it into the waters above, but froze, as an iron man would say, in the hole it had made. This slow cooling off, the gradual loss of its fiery energy, probably lasted for many long years, and gave time for the particles to arrange themselves in the huge crystals that arose all of our astonishment to-day.

WANTON KILLING OF GAME.

Wasteful Slaughter of Deer in Oregon Will Lead to Their Extinction.

Parties who have been out hunting in the country between the head waters of the fork of the Santiam bring back accounts of a wholesale destruction of deer in that region by Indians.

Bands of Warm Spring and Killekat Indians, numbering from one hundred and fifty to two hundred, get permission about July 1 to come over into the Wasatchville valley to stick horns and

leave their reservations. They come in over the Santiam wagon road and make a camp at Indian Prairie, and then organize a grand round-up of deer. They surround a vast tract of country on their ponies, says the Portland *Oregonian*, which they ride through a country that a white man can hardly get through on foot, and drive the deer toward a common center and slaughter them by hundreds, killing bucks, fawns and does indiscriminately, drying the choice parts of the meat for winter supplies.

The settlers view these proceedings with great disfavor, and claim that as they are not allowed to go on Indian reservations the Indians should not be allowed to harry the country outside of the reservations. It is claimed that these Indians have exterminated the male deer in eastern Oregon, and are fast exterminating the deer in the Cascades.

It is stated that in the region about the headwaters of the various forks of the Santiam Indians have this season slaughtered over one thousand deer.

The Italian Lithophagous.

In writing of Francis Battaglia, the Italian lithophagous, or stone eater, Dr. Bulwer, in his "Artificial Changeling," has this to say: "This queer creature was born with two small pebbles in his hands, one in each. He refused all ordinary nourishment, would not suckle, only when small stones were given him with the nursing bottle." After Battaglia grew to manhood he was exhibited in all the principal cities of Europe. Dr. Bulwer had a chance to professionally examine the "queer creature" after "it" had been kept on a stone diet for about thirty years. He thus describes Battaglia's manner of feeding: "He would put three or four stones in a spoon, swallow them down and then drink a glass of beer after them. He devoured a half peck of these stones every day, and when he shakes his body they clink in his stomach. In appearance he is a black, swarthy-looking fellow, and, having been a soldier, made good use of the food allowed him by selling it and subsisting on dirt and pebbles."

Japan and China.

The women of America will be very much shocked to hear of a little sign which occupies a place on the banks of the Yuen-Pai river in Foochow: "Do Not Drown Female Infants Here." The sign is read by 750,000 Foochowans, causing no blush and no comment. The killing of a girl baby in China is a crime never punished. The birth of a female child throws the whole family into deepest grief, and the mother often finds that the only way in which she can retrieve herself is to dispose of the infant quietly and effectively. Very different is the state of things in Japan. There the parents are straining every nerve to educate their children, girls as well as boys. Even young husbands are sending their young wives to school. European clothing is worn (it is an open question, however, whether this is an improvement), and colleges and seminaries have been established all over the country. Much of the credit is due to the efforts of the empress of Japan.

A Stylish Corpse.

"She was the most stylish corpse," we heard a woman remark the other day, in speaking of a leader of fashion lately deceased, says the Philadelphia Times, and, prompted by curiosity, we inquired what went to make up a "stylish corpse." "Oh," replied the gusher, with no hesitation, "she wore a black velvet gown with point lace trimmings, had her eyebrows penciled and cheeks and lips rouged, besides having her hair done in the most delightful fashion possible. Positively to be such a beautiful corpse was worth dying for."

New to the Business.

A West Washington young lady (says the Post of that city), who has been married but a few weeks, had her first experience at "going to market" the other day. After she had succeeded in making several laughable blunders, as young wives are apt to, she approached a poultry dealer and asked the price of chickens. Being told by the dealer, who also handed her a fine pair of live birds to examine, she queried their fluttering as best she could, and then, applying her nose to them, and giving them an audible sniff, said, in the most innocent manner: "Are you sure they are fresh, sir?"

No Lady.

In town, suffering from piles, but what would prefer the easiest method of being cured. No knife, no pain, but a sure cure for piles by using Hill's Pile Pomade. A printed guarantee with each package. By mail \$1, six for \$5. Try it tonight.

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Those goods are all first class in every respect and worth from 35 to 50 per cent more. Our aim in giving you these bargains is not because we want to dispose of some old stock, shelf worn and old style or shoddy goods, which would be dear to you at almost any price. No; we are not closing out our stock or going out of business or changing hands—we are here to stay. Our stock is all new, fresh and stylish and experience has taught us that the only way to succeed is to stand by our friends by giving the people first class goods at the lowest possible price. Come, give us a trial.

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